

Message Text

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ORIGIN ARA-10

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L/ARA - MR. WILLIS (INFO)
ARA/CCA - MR. HOLLADAY (INFO)
M/CT - MR. MEYERS (INFO)
JUSTICE - MR. PROPPER (INFO)

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O R 061817Z MAY 77
FM SECSTATE WASHDC
TO AMEMBASSY CARACAS IMMEDIATE
INFO AMEMBASSY SANTO DOMINGO
AMEMBASSY BUENOS AIRES
AMEMBASSY SANTIAGO
AMEMBASSY SAN JOSE
AMEMBASSY MANAGUA
AMEMBASSY PORT OF SPAIN
AMEMBASSY PANAMA
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TAGS: PFOR, PINS, VE

SUBJECT: FLEETWOOD ARTICLE ON ORLANDO BOSCH IN NEW TIMES

1. SUMMARY: WEEKLY NEWS MAGAZINE NEW TIMES OF MAY 13
CARRIES BLAKE FLEETWOOD ARTICLE, LARGELY BASED ON EXCLU-
SIVE SIX-HOUR CARACAS INTERVIEW WITH ORLANDO BOSCH, EN-
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TITLED "I AM GOING TO DECLARE WAR". IN ARTICLE (BEING
POUCHED), BOSCH TRACES HIS PERSONAL INVOLVEMENT IN ANTI-
CASTRO TERRORISM, INCLUDING CIA AND FBI CONTACTS IN SIXTIES,
EXILE TERRORIST ORGANIZATION EFFORTS IN CARIBBEAN AND ELSE-
WHERE, AND AGREEMENTS WITH GOV BEGINNING 1974. BOSCH
DENIED KNOWING ANYTHING ON LETELIER MURDER. NO USG SOURCES
CITED IN ARTICLE, WHICH DEVOTES ONLY HALF PARAGRAPH NEAR

END TO PROPPER AND WASHINGTON GRAND JURY. END SUMMARY.

2. FLEETWOOD WRITES THAT BOSCH WAS ANXIOUS TO TALK TO A FOREIGN REPORTER IN THAT GOV HAD PREVENTED OTHER INTERVIEWS. BOSCH STATED THAT AFTER BEING SENTENCED TO DEATH BY CASTRO BECAUSE OF HIS ANTI-CASTRO GUERRILLA MOVEMENT, HE FLED TO FLORIDA WHERE HE AND LUIS POSADO, WHOM HE THEN MET, WERE AMONG 6,000 CUBAN EXILES ON THE CIA PAYROLL. HE FELT "BETRAYED" BY THE KENNEDY ADMINISTRATION AND THE CIA AFTER THE CUBAN MISSILE CRISIS AND SUBSEQUENT USG REDUCTION IN

ANTI-CASTRO ACTIVITIES.

3. HE SUBSEQUENTLY WENT UNDERGROUND AFTER THE JOSE ELIAS DE LA TORRIENTE ASSASSINATION, WHICH HE PRAISED BUT ON WHICH HE DISCLAIMED RESPONSIBILITY, AND BEGAN TO DIRECT THE "INTERNATIONALIZATION OF THE WAR". HE FELT TERRORISTS SHOULD OPERATE FROM CENTRAL AND SOUTH AMERICAN BASES, HIS MAIN GOAL BEING TO FORGE ALLIANCES WITH THE FRIENDLY GOVERNMENTS OF NICARAGUA, THE DOMINICAN REPUBLIC, COSTA RICA AND VENEZUELA.

4. BOSCH SAYS THAT HIS FIRST PACT WITH THE GOV CAME IN NOVEMBER 1974 WHEN HE CLAIMS DISIP ARRESTED HIM ALTHOUGH THE GOV DENIED HE WAS IN THE COUNTRY. AT THAT TIME, HE MADE A FORMAL AGREEMENT WITH RIVAS VASQUEZ AND ORLANDO GARCIA, PROMISING THAT NO MORE TERRORIST ACTS WOULD TAKE PLACE IN VENEZUELA IF NO HIGH OFFICIAL OF THE CUBAN REGIME WOULD BE ALLOWED INTO VENEZUELA. HE LATER MADE CONTACTS

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IN CHILE WITH THE RIGHT-WING EXTREMIST AAA PARTY, AND CONSPIRED TO KILL TWO CUBAN DIPLOMATS WHO DISAPPEARED AUGUST 9, 1976 AND HAVEN'T BEEN HEARD OF SINCE. CARLOS RIVERO COLLADE, A FORMER CUBAN EXILE, CLAIMS BOSCH WAS TRAINED BY THE CHILEAN NATIONAL INTELLIGENCE DEPARTMENT. BOSCH REFUSED TO TAKE PERSONAL CREDIT FOR BOMBINGS WITHIN THE UNITED STATES BECAUSE OF FBI "HEAT" BUT BOASTED THAT CORU (COORDINATION OF THE UNITED REVOLUTIONARY ORGANIZATION) HAD BEEN RESPONSIBLE FOR OVER FIFTY IN MIAMI, NEW YORK, VENEZUELA, PANAMA, MEXICO AND ARGENTINA.

5. IN 1976 HE SET UP A NEW "DEAL" IN VENEZUELA TO LIVE THERE UNDER AN ASSUMED NAME AND FROM THERE TO ORGANIZE OTHER TERRORIST ACTIONS ANYWHERE EXCEPT IN VENEZUELA, COSTA RICA AND THE DOMINICAN REPUBLIC. HE ACCEPTED A DISIP IDENTIFICATION CARD, BUT CLAIMS HE TURNED DOWN A GOV OFFER OF WEAPONS AND BODYGUARDS. UNTIL THE LETELIER AND CUBANA BOMBINGS, THE VENEZUELAN PACT WAS GOING WELL. THEN, BOSCH SAYS, HE WAS PUT IN "PROTECTIVE CUSTODY". HE FEELS

THAT HE WAS SET-UP BY RICARDO MORALES NAVARETTE AND SAYS "WE'RE GOING TO ACCUSE HIM (VENEZUELAN PRESIDENT PEREZ) OF BETRAYING US". PRESIDENT PEREZ, THE INTERIOR MINISTER AND THE DISIP DIRECTOR WILL ALSO BE ACCUSED IF I GO ON TRIAL. AND, BOSCH STATED, AFTER HE DECLARES WAR, THERE WILL BE A LOT OF BOMBINGS, KIDNAPPINGS AND SHOOTINGS.

6. ON LETELIER, FLEETWOOD WRITES THAT CUBAN GOVERNMENT OFFICIALS CLAIMED CHILE HIRED BOSCH TO KILL LETELIER AND BOSCH HANDED CORU THE MONEY FOR THE ASSASSINATION. BOSCH SAYS THAT HIS GROUP DID NOT COMMIT THE ASSASSINATION, AND

EVEN IF HE KNEW WHO DID, HE WOULDN'T TELL. A "CONFIDENTIAL INTELLIGENCE REPORT" OBTAINED BY NEW TIMES SAYS THAT BOSCH TOLD THE GOV AT THE TIME OF HIS ARREST THAT THE "NOVO BROTHERS WERE INVOLVED" WITH THAT ASSASSINATION. ARTICLE SAYS THAT THE US HAS NOW BEGUN OFFERING LIMITED IMMUNITY UNCLASSIFIED

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TO SOME OF THE CUBAN EXILES, HOPING TO FORCE THEM TO TALK ABOUT THE LETELIER ASSASSINATION.

7. FLEETWOOD CITES VENEZUELAN LEGAL EXPERTS TO SAY THAT THE LIKELIHOOD OF CONVICTING BOSCH ON THE CUBANA BOMBINGS IS NOT GREAT AND IT IS ENTIRELY POSSIBLE BOSCH WILL BE RELEASED.

8. USG RECEIVES LITTLE COVERAGE BEYOND REFERENCES NOTED ABOVE. FLEETWOOD DOES CITE FBI INFORMANTS AT TWO POINTS AS WELL AS THAT "CONFIDENTIAL INTELLIGENCE REPORT" IN PARA 6. EUGENE PROPPER AND THE WASHINGTON GRAND JURY ALSO RECEIVE HALF A PARAGRAPH NEAR END OF ARTICLE REGARDING INFORMATION AVAILABLE PUBBICLY. CHRISTOPHER

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